

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (New) An electric razor provided with

an inner blade,

an outer blade that slidably contacts the inner blade,

a driving portion that drives the inner blade,

a controller that controls the driving portion so as to drive the inner blade at a predetermined driving frequency and a predetermined driving amplitude,

a main switch that switches an operation between ON and OFF, and

a mode switch that operatively changes a drive mode between a normal drive mode allowing a user to shave hair by nipping the hair between the inner blade and the outer blade, and a cleaning drive mode allowing the user to clean the blades,

wherein the controller controls the driving portion in the normal drive mode when the mode switch is switched to the normal drive mode, while the controller controls the driving portion in the cleaning drive mode when the mode switch is switched to the cleaning drive mode,

at least one of the driving frequency and the driving amplitude of the inner blade in the cleaning drive mode is set smaller than the corresponding driving frequency or driving amplitude in the normal drive mode, and a maximum instantaneous moving speed

of the driving inner blade is set at 60 m or lower per minute, and a moving speed of the driving inner blade is instantaneously set at 20 m or higher per minute in the cleaning drive mode.

16. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, wherein the cleaning drive mode includes multiple drive modes, each drive mode has a moving speed of the inner blade different from one another.

17. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, wherein the electric razor is operated in the normal drive mode in response to turning on of the main switch, and is switched over to the cleaning drive mode if a time of the ON-state of the main switch is continued for a predetermined time.

18. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, wherein driving of the inner blade is suspended after the inner blade is driven in the cleaning drive mode for a predetermined time.

19. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, wherein driving of the inner blade is suspended after the inner blade is driven for a first duration, and the driving of the inner blade is resumed after the suspension of the driving of the inner blade for a second duration while the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

20. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, wherein at least one of the driving frequency and the driving amplitude of the inner blade after the driving of the inner blade is resumed is set smaller than the corresponding one before the driving of the inner blade is suspended while the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

21. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 19, wherein after the driving of the inner blade is resumed at the end of the second duration, the driving of the inner blade is suspended after the inner blade is driven for a third duration while the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

22. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, wherein the inner blade is driven with at least one of the driving frequency and the driving amplitude of the inner blade at the time of turning on of the main switch that is smaller than the corresponding driving frequency or driving amplitude in the normal drive mode, the inner blade is driven in the cleaning drive mode if it is judged that the ON-state time of the main switch has reached a predetermined time, and the inner blade is driven in the normal drive mode if it is judged that the ON-state time of the main switch has not reached the predetermined time, and in response to turning off of the main switch.

23. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, further comprising a notifier that notifies the user that the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

24. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 15, further comprising an indicator that indicates a time during which the inner blade is driven in the normal drive mode after the inner blade is driven in the cleaning drive mode, and for prompting the user to clean the inner blade if it is judged that the indication time has reached a predetermined time.

25. (New) An electric razor provided with

- an inner blade,
- an outer blade that slidably contacts the inner blade,
- a driving portion that drives the inner blade,
- a controller that controls the driving portion so as to drive the inner blade at a predetermined number of driving revolutions,
- a main switch that switches an operation between ON and OFF, and
- a mode switch that operatively changes a drive mode between a normal drive mode allowing a user to shave hair by nipping the hair between the inner blade and the outer blade, and a cleaning drive mode allowing the user to clean the blades,

wherein the controller controls the driving portion in the normal drive mode when the mode switch is switched to the normal drive mode, while the controller controls the driving portion in the cleaning drive mode when the mode switch is switched to the cleaning drive mode,

the number of driving revolutions in the cleaning drive mode is set smaller than the corresponding number of driving revolutions in the normal drive mode, and a maximum instantaneous moving speed of the driving inner blade is set at 60 m or lower

per minute, and a moving speed of the driving inner blade is instantaneously set at 20 m or higher per minute in the cleaning drive mode.

26. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, wherein the cleaning drive mode includes multiple drive modes, each drive mode has a moving speed of the inner blade different from one another.

27. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, wherein the electric razor is operated in the normal drive mode in response to turning on of the main switch, and is switched over to the cleaning drive mode if a time of the ON-state of the main switch is continued for a predetermined time.

28. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, wherein driving of the inner blade is suspended after the inner blade is driven in the cleaning drive mode for a predetermined time.

29. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, wherein driving of the inner blade is suspended after the inner blade is driven for a first duration, and the driving of the inner blade is resumed after the suspension of the driving of the inner blade for a second duration, while the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

30. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, wherein the number of the driving revolutions of the inner blade after the driving of the inner blade is resumed is set

smaller than the corresponding one before the driving of the inner blade is suspended while the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

31. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 29, wherein after the driving of the inner blade is resumed at the end of the second duration, the driving of the inner blade is suspended after the inner blade is driven for a third duration while the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

32. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, wherein the inner blade is driven with the number of driving revolutions of the inner blade at the time of turning on of the main switch that is smaller than the number of the driving revolutions in the normal drive mode, the inner blade is driven in the cleaning drive mode if it is judged that the ON-state time of the main switch has reached a predetermined time, and the inner blade is driven in the normal drive mode if it is judged that the ON-state time of the main switch has not reached the predetermined time, and in response to turning off of the main switch.

33. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, further comprising a notifier that notifies the user that the electric razor is operated in the cleaning drive mode.

34. (New) The electric razor according to Claim 25, further comprising an indicator that indicates a time during which the inner blade is driven in the normal drive mode after the inner blade is driven in the cleaning drive mode, and that prompts the user

to clean the inner blade if it is judged that the indication time has reached a predetermined time.